United Nations A/58/360

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Item 126 of the provisional agenda*
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 15 September 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present 14 Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states as follows:

> "A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member."

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (2001 and 2002) are as follows:

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Burundi	57 507.00
Central African Republic	307 662.00
Comoros	731 766.00
Democratic Republic of the Congo	60 535.00
Georgia	6 782 041.00
Guinea-Bissau	446 966.00
Iraq	12 547 137.00
Liberia	1 097 164.00
Niger	352 750.00
Republic of Moldova	1 935 974.00
Sao Tome and Principe	550 171.00

* A/58/150.

03-51309 (E) 150903

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Somalia	978 471.00
Tajikistan	1 551 361.00
Vanuatu	8 871.00

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

United Nations A/58/360/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 September 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Item 126 of the provisional agenda*
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 18 September 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 15 September 2003 (A/58/360), I have the honour to inform you that Vanuatu has made the payment necessary to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

* A/58/150.

03-52408 (E) 180903

United Nations A/58/361–S/2003/877

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
11 September 2003
English
Original: Russian

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Item 158 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of a statement made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. I. S. Ivanov, on the occasion of the anniversary of the tragic events of 11 September 2001 in the United States (see annex).

I should be grateful if this statement could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 158 of the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sergei **Lavrov**

* A/58/150.

03-49773 (E) 120903 120903

Annex to the letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Mr. I. S. Ivanov

On the occasion of the anniversary of the tragic events of 11 September 2001 in the United States

It has been two years since the terrible tragedy struck the American people on 11 September 2001. Human memory is fallible and time obliterates many events. But that day, when the blue sky above New York was darkened by a black cloud of dust from the crumbling skyscrapers, will live in the world's history. And not only because thousands of innocent people remained buried for ever under the rubble, whose lives were cut off by a terrorist act of unprecedented cruelty and perfidy — people from dozens of countries, including the Russian Federation.

That day marked the beginning of a new phase in the struggle for the survival of mankind, in the struggle with new threats and challenges. It became clear to everyone that this struggle can be won only if the international community acts together, as one.

As we remember the tragedy in New York, we also mourn the "Nord-Ost" victims in Moscow and the United Nations staff members, led by Sergio Vieira de Mello, who perished in Baghdad. And there have also been many other innocent victims of terrorism in the most diverse corners of our planet.

The weapon of terrorism is murder, and those who commit these crimes are murderers. This must be said loud and clear. We must not allow the memory of the innocent victims to be defiled by referring to the terrorists as "freedom fighters" or "defenders of the faith". We must not remain indifferent as the terrorists and their protectors, sowing fear and panic, try to destabilize the situation in individual countries and in whole regions.

In memory of all those who died at the hands of terrorists, and on behalf of the living, all States and all responsible politicians must decisively oppose terrorism in all its manifestations and take effective measures to combat this common evil.

The Russian Federation has adopted and will continue to adopt a firm and uncompromising position in this regard.

United Nations A/58/362

General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 September 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Item 97 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

Letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan hosted the International Freshwater Forum in Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan, from 29 August to 1 September 2003. The Forum was organized in cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, the United Nations Development Programme, the Governments of the United States of America and Switzerland and the Aga Khan Foundation. The Forum was dedicated to the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, and its theme was "Water, environment and security".

The Forum was attended by almost 500 delegates from 53 countries, 11 specialized agencies and 91 international organizations. More than 250 journalists from various countries of the world covered the Forum.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed a letter of greeting to the delegates at the Forum.

Eighteen side events took place during the Forum, which offered opportunities for a broad exchange of views among Governments, civil society, leading scientists and water experts. From the viewpoint of the delegates' dialogue, cooperation and a joint search for the solution of the "water" problems that have been accumulating in today's interdependent world were the focus of the Forum.

Forum participants adopted the coordinated Dushanbe Water Appeal, which I have the honour to forward to you (see annex).

I would appreciate it if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under item 97 of the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session.

(*Signed*) Rashid **Alimov**
Ambassador

* A/58/150.

03-49893 (E) 170903

Annex to the letter dated 11 September 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

DUSHANBE WATER APPEAL

Freshwater is essential for daily life and integrity of ecosystems and is a key to sustainable development and poverty reduction. At the Millennium Summit in 2000 and at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, world leaders recognized the importance of freshwater and committed themselves to a clear and time-bound agenda for protecting the world's current and future water resources, promoting sanitation and addressing environment issues.

The International Year of Freshwater 2003, declared by UN General Assembly at the initiative of the Government of Tajikistan, has further raised the awareness for freshwater problems and the urgent need for their resolution. Using the momentum, this year should mark a transition from commitments and promises to actions and implementation.

The vital nature of water makes it a basis for cooperation between people and nations. Integrated water management should be used to promote stability, poverty reduction and sustainable development. Countries should share knowledge, experience and technologies for the rational and effective use of water resources, and countries sharing the same river basin should work jointly to protect and utilize this common resource to improve the economic and social well being of all the people living in these basins.

* * *

We, the participants of the Dushanbe International Fresh Water Forum, representing governments, scientific and educational institutions, local authorities, non-governmental and international organizations, private businesses,

Reaffirm our commitment to support and implement actions towards maximizing the contribution of water to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to the realizations of targets agreed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

We call upon all stakeholders, especially those present here, to ***commit themselves*** to achieving the MDGs and the targets and actions agreed under the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation by:

- targeting actions in water management to the reduction of poverty and the promotion of gender equity;
- implementing integrated water resources management, based on an ecosystem approach, considering the interests of all sectors benefiting from water resources (energy, agriculture, industry, environment, water supply and sanitation, etc.);

- working towards developing and implementing effective agreements for the management of transboundary and/or boundary watercourses, while building further on international frameworks agreed so far and making river basin organizations more effective in terms of their capacities to implement their mandates and functions;
- enhancing the efficiency of hydroelectric production and distribution capacities to increase the share of renewable energy with due consideration of environmental and social impacts;
- pursuing innovative and pro-poor resource mobilization strategies, including the implementation of efficient water pricing policies, charging for ecosystem services and forging partnerships, including with the private sector, that give priority to the needs of the poor;
- promoting the sustainable use and restoration of water related ecosystems such as a contribution to achieving the WSSD biological diversity goal of a significant reduction to its current rate of loss by 2010;
- raising public awareness to provide present and future generations with information on effective responses to the challenges of the new millennium;
- promoting the exchange of information on the equitable and efficient use of water resources and efficient resource allocation among water uses;
- making use of the website network established after the 3rd World Water Forum in the follow up of the Portfolio of Water Actions announced at the Ministerial Conference.

We take note of the decisions and appeals made by the Heads of States of the Central Asian Region with regard to various regional initiatives, including the establishment of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea as means to coordinate and improve the management of regional water resources.

We welcome the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to declare 2003 as an International Year of Fresh Water in response to the resolution moved by the Government of Tajikistan, and ***express*** our appreciation for the commendable efforts made by the Government of Tajikistan for hosting the Dushanbe International Fresh Water Forum as part of the events of this year.

We appeal to the United Nations to follow up the finding and recommendations of the Commission on Sustainable Development dealing with water, sanitation and human settlements by declaring the period of 2005 through 2015 as the International Decade of "Water for Life". ***We request*** the Government of Tajikistan to bring this proposal to the attention of the UN General Assembly as a contribution to the follow-up of the International Year of Fresh Water.

We call upon Governments, international agencies, the private sector and other stakeholders to make it a decade of action by taking concrete measures that contribute to:

- reducing by half the proportion of people without access to adequate and safe drinking water and sanitation by 2015;
- improving the health conditions to reduce the risks that lead to the death of 2 million children every year due to poor access to safe drinking water;
- protecting the resource base both in terms of quantity and quality to ensure that present and future generations are able to sustain their lives on the planet;
- mobilizing and investing adequate resources to finance drinking water supply and sanitation; and
- moving from preparation of water management plans to their implementation, with a focus on increasing water productivity in agriculture and water supply and sanitation.

Adopted by the participants of the Dushanbe International Freshwater Forum on the 1st of September 2003.